

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office
FLOOR DEBATE

April 4, 2002

LB 1003

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Erdman would move to amend Senator Beutler's amendment, FA1050. (Legislative Journal page 1415.)

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Erdman, to open on your motion, AM3343. Senator Erdman.

SENATOR ERDMAN: Thank you, Mr. President. Members of the Legislature, when we left last evening there was a lot of discussion. There was some discussion of a hopeful compromise and I think this morning we have arrived at one, partially due to the fact of Senator Redfield's hard work in trying to come up with some common sense that both sides can agree to. We have had an amendment drafted this morning. That has been sent to Bill Drafters and in the process of being sent back down to us to be presented to the body. So what I would request the body to do is we're going to discuss this amendment just for the sake of time and allow the bill to come down so that we can offer the amendment, and it will be an amendment to Senator Beutler's original amendment. And I will go ahead at this time and yield the rest of my time to Senator Redfield, so she may explain to you what exactly the amendment will entail. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Redfield.

SENATOR REDFIELD: Thank you, Senator Cudaback, members of the body, and thank you, Senator Erdman, for this time. Yesterday we were hung up on a couple of issues, but the overriding issue that becomes my issue is the concept of one person, one vote. And as I was looking at what Senator Beutler was proposing, philosophically the direction he was going is one which we all should share. At the same time, I looked at the numbers of going to eight people on the board and realized that we were still a long way from one person, one vote, because in fact it still was not at all equitable across the state. It was only when Senator Stuhr stood up and addressed us all saying this is not the time for us to expand the numbers in government in any way, shape or form, recognizing that the only costs here actually are the expenses of the board member that we would be adding, I still recognize that it was sending a message to the